1998-1999	09
1999-2000	10
2000-2001	29
2001-2002	56
2002-2003	46
2003-2004	32
20004-2005	94
2005-till date	08

As per available data, estimated national loss of more than Rs. 450 Crores has occurred due to such illegal grey market telephone setups.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) FIR is lodged against the offenders found, who has setup the illegal grey market telephone setup and case is registered in the court of law, mainly under section 420,120B, 379 of IPC, 4, 20, 20A, 25 of IT Act &/or 3,6 of IWT Act, in addition to any new sections as applicable based on case-to-case basis.

All the equipments used in the illegal grey market switch are seized by the security agencies.

Arrest of Indians in Bangladesh

*420. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether nine Indians were arrested in Bangladesh on March 11, 2005 and lodged in Bangla jails;

(b) if so, the total number of Indians in Bangladesh jails as on April 1, 2005, and on what grounds they have been arrested/imprisoned indicating the charges against them; and

(c) the steps taken so far to secure their release and return to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) A statement is placed on the table of the House.

(a) Yes Sir. Nine Indian nationals from Tripura were arrested on March 11,2005 in Laksham, Comilla district of Bangladesh. According to press

reports they were employed by a local contractor to construct a podium for a political rally. The High Commission of India in Dhaka immediately sought consular access. The Government of Bangladesh has also been requested to provide detailed information regarding their apprehension and the charges brought against them and to expedite their release and repatriation.

(b) and (c) According to available information, 738 Indian nationals were in Bangladeshi jails as on January 2004. Many of them are charged with violation of Bangladeshi immigration laws. The High Commission of India in Dhaka is in continual contact with the Bangladesh Foreign Ministry and other authorities to secure consular access as well as their early release and repatriation.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Promotion of agro-based industries

3091. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the need of taking new steps to promote agro-based industries in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the products and schemes that have been launched in the last one year; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Government has been promoting agro and rural industries through the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), schemes for development of the khadi and coir sectors, etc. During 2004-05, the budgetary allocations for both REGP and PMRY were enhanced as compared with that during 2003-04 and in case of REGP, it has been further enhanced in the budget estimates, 2005-06. Further, in keeping with the declaration in the National Common Minimum Programme and the announcement in the July 2004 budget speech of Finance Minister, the draft of a scheme titled the "Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries" has been circulated for comments of ail concerned, prior to approval and implementation during 2005-06.